

# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

865D.75

SEE 865d.01/107 FOR #1710

FROM Italy ( Kirk ) DATED May 29, 1936

TO NAME 1-1127 \*\*\*

### REGARDING:

Telephone. Military telephone lines and certain of former  
civil lines were to have been fully repaired by May 26th.

Telephone.

Military telephone lines and certain of former civil  
lines were to have been fully repaired by May 26th.

865D.75/1

# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

2

SEE 865d.01/157 FOR Despatch #1797

FROM Italy ( Kirk ) DATED July 22, 1936.

TO NAME 1-1127 ...

REGARDING: Communication between Addis Ababa and the principal cities of Ethiopia. Government General has established a commission to study and give its opinion on all proposals for the installation, alteration, or completion of telegraphic and telephonic systems in Ethiopia.

865D.75/2

No. 103

DIVISION OF  
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

OCT 6 1937

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

# AMERICAN CONSULATE,

Milan, Italy, September 11, 1937

TREATY DIVISION 18571

OCT 8 - 1937

Yes No  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OR DISTRIBUTION - CHECK

Emb. Rome To the Field

Comis R In U. S. A.

Commerce

OFFICE OF THE ADVISER ON  
INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

OCT 11 1937

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Pirelli Interests Force Telephone and  
Telegraph Equipment Consortium  
for the Italian Empire.

1-1085 GPO

A-M/C

RECORDING DESK

FILE - WHB

OCT 2 - 1937

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
SEP 29 1937  
DIVISION OF  
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

Sir:

I have the honor to report that, telephone and telegraph equipment in Italian Africa will henceforth be supplied by a new Consortium just formed with a million lire capital and known as the F.I.T.A.O.I. (Forniture Impianti Telefonici in Africa Orientale Italiana). Some five companies organized under Italian laws are involved, representing Italian, American, Swedish, German and American capital investments. The names of the companies and the territory assigned to each, subject, however, to some revision, follow:

Autelco Mediterranea S.A.T.A.P. (affiliated with the American Group Associated Telephone and Telegraph) will operate in Erytrea;

Fabbrica Apparecchiature per Comunicazioni Elettriche F.A.C.E., a Limited Company in Milan. Pirelli with International Telephone and Telegraph Company minority interest, will cover Addis Abeba;

Fabbrica Apparecchi Telefonici e Materiale Elettrico F.A.T.M.E., a Limited Company in Rome. Erickon, Swedish interests, will operate in Asmara and Harrar;

Officine

865D.75/3

OCT 13 1937

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

OFFICE

STATE

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RECEIVED  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SEP 28 1937

COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

865D.75  
note  
865D.72

~~Officine~~ ~~Lombarde~~ Apparecchi di Precisione  
-O.I.A.P., a Limited Company in Milan. Siemens  
-Halske, German interests have been given the  
Somaliland area;

Societa' Italiana Reti Telefoniche Interurbane  
-S.I.R.T.I. -a Limited Company in Milan. Pirelli  
interests, which will have the long line (distance)  
concessions throughout the Italian African Empire.

Offices of the management will be at Milan. There  
will also be a consortial office in Addis Abeba and  
sub-offices at the capitals of the various provinces.

The purpose of the Consortium as officially announced  
is to obtain the maximum technical cooperation of the  
entire industry so as to prepare a well coordinated  
plan for the telephone and telegraphic communications  
of the new Italian Empire which would embody the  
latest technical developments and give to the Colonial  
Government the best guarantee from the point of view  
of service and maintenance of the installations.

On the other hand, it is privately admitted that  
the Consortium, as organized, was forced by Pirelli  
interests and represents a monopoly more to the ad-  
vantage of the companies (some of which were reluctant  
to enter the arrangement) than to the public interest.

A copy of this dispatch has been sent to Embassy,  
Rome, for its information.

Respectfully yours,

Walter H. Sholes  
American Consul General

Central File: Decimal File 865D.75, Internal Affairs Of States, Italian East Africa, Telephone., May 29, 1936 - September 11, 1937. May 29, 1936 - September 11, 1937. MS European Colonialism in the Early 20th Century. National Archives (United States). Archives Unbound, [link.gale.com%2Fapps%2Fdoc%2FSC5109727876%2FGDSC%3Fu%3Domni%26sid%3Dbookmark-GDSC](https://link.gale.com%2Fapps%2Fdoc%2FSC5109727876%2FGDSC%3Fu%3Domni%26sid%3Dbookmark-GDSC). Accessed 18 June 2025.